

# Pony Express Newsletter

January 2015

Debra Hetrick, Principal

David Cooper, PTA President

## Principal's Message

Dear Parents:

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

As I visited each classroom this week, students appeared eager to be back and learn. The main goal of every staff member at Pony Express is student academic success. We believe that every student will learn to the highest level and we are prepared to put the time in to make that happen. I ask for your support and participation in this effort. Please send your child to school every day on time, encourage your child to read at least 30 minutes every night, monitor your child's homework, and ask your child to share what they learned at school each day.

### Important Jan/Feb Dates:

Jan. 12-16	6 <sup>th</sup> Graders Sly Park
Jan. 19	MLK Holiday
Jan. 20	PTA Meeting 6 pm
Jan. 23	Family Movie Night
Jan. 24	E-Waste Fundraiser
Feb. 9 & 16	Holiday/No School
Feb. 10	PTA Meeting 6 pm
Feb. 20	Family Dance

## **KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION**

Please let parents, friends, and neighbors know that we are in the process of Kindergarten registration for the 2015-2016 school year. To assure that your child has a spot in the kindergarten class, don't wait until August, register NOW. All schools have a two-week window for registration at their school site from January 20-February 3. All completed registration documents are due back to the office during this time frame. Parents/guardians are welcome to stop by the office if you need paper work copies made to complete your packets. If you are new to our district and have not completed a current census, or have a kindergarten age child, please call the school at 916-433-5350.

**To be eligible for school, children must be 5 years old by September 1, 2015.** There are no exceptions.

The following documents are required at the time of registration:

- Photo ID or passport
- CURRENT utility bill (SMUD, PG&E, or WATER) with correct name and address **or**
- CURRENT mortgage/property tax bill or rental/lease agreement
- Up-to-date immunization record
- Age verification (must have one of the following: Birth Certificate, Passport, Baptismal Certificate, School Record, I-94 document)
- Individual Education Plan (IEP) if your child is receiving special education services
- Guardianship/Custody papers (if applicable)

## **WEATHER**

Students should come to school prepared to go outdoors. As the temperatures outside continue to be in the high 40's to low 60's, it is important for your student to come to school dressed in layers and have a jacket. We go out for recess and PE as long as it is not raining.

## **SAFETY**

All schools in the Sacramento City Unified School District develop an annual *Comprehensive School Safety Plan* approved by the School Site Council and the School Board. It includes an assessment of the current status, emergency response procedures, and an action plan for improvement. Pony Express goals consist of:

1. Providing each student a safe, positive, respectful, accepting, nurturing environment by which students can develop resiliency skills to prepare for adulthood and beyond.

2. Our staff is concerned about the well-being and safety of each and every student. We take pride in the safety procedures currently in place. We want to ensure a safe, successful educational experience for all.

Anyone interested in reviewing the plan can do so at the school.

Should an emergency or disaster situation ever arise in our area while school is in session, we want you to be aware that Pony Express has made preparations to respond effectively to such situations. If a major event or emergency should occur during school hours, the safety of your children will be our 1<sup>st</sup> priority. Pony Express has a detailed emergency response plan, which has been formulated to respond to major catastrophes of all types. Our staff receives training in safety and disaster preparedness procedures on a monthly basis. Some of those procedures are practiced routinely throughout the year. The types of drills practiced include: Fire, lock down, off campus, and earthquake drills.

If early dismissal has been determined by the *District Superintendent or designee*, the school and district will begin to notify parents in one of three ways: phone call, district web site, and media. Otherwise, school will remain in session and students will remain at school under adult supervision. **Safety of our students is our #1 priority!**

Sincerely,  
*Debra Hetrick*  
Principal

## PTA President's Message

The calendar says it's time to put down the **egg nog** and, reluctantly, I will abide. What choice do I have? As soon as the ball dropped on New Year's in Times Square, my precious holiday elixir was on borrowed time. As expected, the egg nog cartons quickly dwindled on the supermarket shelves and then, poof, they were gone.

The PTA is going to help shake off this "nog-ageddon" with events that will help our Pony community weather the winter chill. First, we have a **PTA meeting on Tuesday, January 20**. You've had a couple of guilt-free months of no meetings, but it's time to peaceably assemble and chart the PTA's course for the second half of the school year. For your trouble, we will feed you and the coffee will be hot (sorry, no egg nog).

Next up is **Family Movie Night on Friday, January 23**. Grab the kids, sleeping bags, and comfy cushions and come down to Pony's multi-purpose room for an affordable evening of family entertainment. The popcorn will be popping and the concessions will be concessioning. Admission is just 50 cents per person and a parent must supervise their child(ren) at all times. Doors open at 6 and show time is 6:30.

**Pony's E-Waste Recycling Fundraiser** is the following day, **Saturday, January 24**. Did Santa bring you a new TV? Get rid of the old one, along with computers, printers, and other electronics to help raise money for our school. Just drop your e-waste at the Pony parking lot any time from 9 am - 1 pm. Volunteers will be available to help you unload. Out with the old, in with the new, and helping Pony at the same time...that's using your (egg) noggin!

Sincerely,  
*David Cooper*  
PTA President

## Get Ready for Family Movie Night!

On **January 23**, bring your blankets and seat cushions to the multi-purpose room and enjoy a kid-friendly movie! (Students will be voting in class to select the movie.) **Doors will open at 6 pm and show time is at 6:30 pm.** Admission is 50 cents per person, and adults must supervise their kids at all times. Concessions will be sold.



## E-Waste Collection Day is Coming!

Did you take advantage of all the holiday bargains and replace your old electronics with shiny new ones? On **January 24, from 9 am to 1 pm**, bring your e-waste to the CEAR bin in the Pony parking lot and help raise money for our school! (CEAR is a state-approved recycler and completely shreds all hard drives.) Volunteers will help unload your items. If you can't make it, email [ponypta@gmail.com](mailto:ponypta@gmail.com) to schedule a pick-up. Go to the Special Events page on our school website for details on acceptable e-waste items.



## PTA General Association Meeting Agenda Tuesday, January 20, 2015, 6:00 PM

2014-2015 Board:

President	David Cooper	Fundraisers	Erin Fong
Vice President	Rod Fong	Newsletters	Rebecca Ramirez
Treasurer	Teresa Kim	Newsletter Distribution	Erin & Rod Fong
Secretary	Rebecca Phillips	Website Administrator	Paul Hemesath
Raley/Nugget Scrip	Matina Bragas	Marquee	Dave Kim
Membership	Rod Fong	Box Tops for Education	Matina Bragas
Assemblies	Audrey Hemesath	Harvest Festival/Family Dance	Patricia Cooper

- ◆ Call Meeting to Order . . . . . David
- ◆ Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes. . . . . Rebecca P.
- ◆ Financial Report . . . . . Teresa
- ◆ President's Report . . . . . David
- ◆ Principal's Report . . . . . Mrs. Hetrick
- ◆ Teachers' Report . . . . .
- ◆ Reports by Committee Coordinators
  - ▲ Membership. . . . . Rod
  - ▲ SCRIPS/BoxTops for Education. . . . . Matina
  - ▲ Student Assemblies. . . . . Audrey
  - ▲ Family Dance . . . . . Patricia
  - ▲ Fundraising Events. . . . . Erin
- ◆ New Business/Open Mic . . . . . David
- ◆ Dates and Announcements
  - ▲ Movie Night, Friday, January 23
  - ▲ E-Waste Recycling, Saturday, January 24
  - ▲ Family Dance, February 20
  - ▲ Next PTA meeting, February 10
- ◆ Adjourn

*Thank you for supporting the PTA*